THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) The primary objective of State Institutes of Rural Development (SIRDs) is to impart training to rural development functionaries and elected representatives, including the elected representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions.

(b) The Bihar Institute of Rural Development prior to the creation of Jharkhand State, which is located at Hehal, Ranchi has now become the State Institute of Rural Development of the newly created State of Jharkhand.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Rural Development has a scheme captioned "Strengthening/Establishment of State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD)" under which funds are provided to States based on the eligible proposals received from them for recurring and non-recurring requirements of the Institutes. No proposal was received from the SIRD, Ranchi through the State Government during the last three years in this regard. The following achievements have been reported by this SIRD in terms of training programmes and persons trained in the last three years:

Year	Number of Training Programmes conducted	Number of persons trained
1999-2000	25	846
2000-2001	9	392
2001-2002	16	370

Recommendation of Central team to study implementation of Food for Work programme in A.P.

2603. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central team visited Andhra Pradesh to study the implementation of the Food for Work programme;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the Team; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Funds sanctioned by EU Commission to Agha Khan Foundation for rural development

2604. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that European Union Commission sanctioned some amount to Agha Khan Foundation in India to support the community based rural development;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the total amount sanctioned and the terms and conditions of such a support; and

(c) whether Government have right to monitor such a scheme?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) and (b) As per available information, the European Commission has singed an Agreement with the Agha Khan Foundation,- a U.K. based NGO - for a project captioned "Sustainable Community Based Approaches to Livelihood Enhancement" (SCALE) in India for which an assistance of Euro 25.5 million will be provided by the European Commission to the Foundation. This project is outside the purview of the Indo-EC-Bilateral Development Cooperation Programme for which Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India is the nodal agency. The details of the project, in brief, are given in the Statement. (*See* below).

(c) Since it is a NGO project, Government of India do not monitor the project.